

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN THE COMMISSIONERS’ ROOM OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 406 CRAVEN STREET, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2002. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 8:30 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Chairman C.W. “Pete” Bland
- Vice Chairman Johnnie Sampson, Jr.
- Commissioner Lee Kyle Allen
- Commissioner Donald Phillips
- Commissioner J. Harold Talton
- Commissioner Albert H. Toon
- Commissioner Charles F. Tyson, Jr.

STAFF PRESENT:

- Harold Blizzard, County Manager
- George B. Sawyer, Assistant County Manager
- Richard F. Hemphill, County Finance Officer
- Ray H. Moser, Human Resources Director
- Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board
- James R. Sugg, County Attorney

Following an invocation by Commissioner Sampson and the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Phillips moved to approve minutes of the September 3, 2002 regular session, seconded by Commissioner Talton and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

Tax Releases and Refunds

Craven County Tax Administrator, Ronnie Antry, submitted the following routine requests for tax releases and refunds for the Board’s approval. Commissioner Sampson moved for their approval, seconded by Commissioner Toon and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Credits

TAXPAYER NAME	TICKET #	AMOUNT
HAWKINS, VICKI FILLINGAME DID NOT OWN 1/1/2001	2001-0022564	\$ 170.52
RUSSELL, PAUL H & LEDEAN P DOUBLE LISTED ON ACCT 4120540	2001-0042836	\$ 142.25
SWANNER, AARON PAUL DWMH REPOSSESSED PRIOR TO 1/1/01	2001-0047400	\$ 261.46
TYNDALL, JEFFREY MCCAIL DID NOT OWN 1/1/2000	2000-0049583	\$ 206.04
TYNDALL, JEFFREY MCCAIL DID NOT OWN 1/1/2001	2001-0049935	\$ 198.58
WATSON, JERRY R DID NOT OWN 1/1/99	1999-0049640	\$ 119.47
WINSOR, LARRY DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT #35101	2001-0054951	\$ 258.07

WINSOR, LARRY	2000-0090776	\$ 271.05
DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT #35101		

8 – CREDIT MEMO (S) \$ 1,627.44

Refunds

HEATH, WENDELL BAINE	2001-0022870	\$ 32.00
ONE RESIDENCE ONLY		

SWANNER, AARON PAUL	2001-0047400	\$ 50.00
DWMH REPOSSESSED PRIOR TO 1/1/01		

SWANNER, AARON PAUL	2000-0046993	\$ 282.25
DWMH REPOSSESSED PRIOR TO 1/1/02		

WATSON, KELLY L JR & BEVERLY J	1997-0047242	\$ 11.38
DOUBLE LISTED AS REAL		

4 – REFUND (S) \$ 375.63

Budget Amendments

Craven County Finance Officer, Rick Hemphill, submitted the following budget amendments for the Board’s approval. Commissioner Sampson moved for their approval, seconded by Commissioner Toon and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Health/GIS Environmental Health

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
101-3139-346-01-00	\$ 18,000.00	101-3139-420-73-21	\$ 18,000.00
Duke University GIS Grant		Capital Outlay - \$500-\$4,999	
TOTAL	\$ 18,000.00	TOTAL	\$ 18,000.00

Justification: Computers & GIS equipment per Pete MacAvery.

Health Multiple

101-5001-366-06-00	\$ 1,336.00	101-5001-440-46-00	\$ 1,336.00
From Home Health		Insurance	
101-5100-366-06-00	\$ 1,235.00	101-5100-440-46-00	\$ 1,235.00
From Home Health		Insurance	
101-5200-366-06-00	\$ 516.00	101-5200-440-46-00	\$ 516.00
From Home Health		Insurance	
101-5500-366-06-00	\$ 947.00	101-5500-440-46-00	\$ 947.00
From Home Health		Insurance	
101-5700-366-06-00	\$ 1,518.00	101-5700-440-46-00	\$ 1,518.00
From Home Health		Insurance	
101-5800-366-06-00	\$ 2,941.00	101-5800-440-46-00	\$ 2,941.00
From Home Health		Insurance	
101-5801-366-06-00	\$ 410.00	101-5801-440-46-00	\$ 410.00
From Home Health		Insurance	
101-6300-366-06-00	\$ 157.00	101-6300-440-46-00	\$ 157.00
From Home Health		Insurance	
101-6301-366-06-00	\$ 194.00	101-6301-440-46-00	\$ 194.00
From Home Health		From Home Health	
101-6400-366-06-00	\$ 1,257.00	101-6400-440-46-00	\$ 1,257.00

From Home Health		Insurance	
101-6700-366-03-00	\$ 153.00	101-6700-440-46-00	\$ 153.00
From Home Health		Insurance	
101-6701-366-03-00	\$ 84.00	101-6701-440-46-00	\$ 84.00
From Home Health		Insurance	
101-6010-366-03-00	\$ 1,454.00	101-6010-440-46-00	\$ 1,454.00
From Home Health		Insurance	
		101-6500-440-46-00	\$ 6,630.00
		Insurance	
101-6500-399-02-00	\$ 18,832.00	101-6500-440-98-00	\$ 12,202.00
Home Health		Transfers	
TOTAL	\$ 18,832.00	TOTAL	\$ 18,832.00

Justification: Using Home Health fund balance to cover insurance liability. Premiums for FY 2003 exceeded amount budgeted.

Pass Through

101-0564-348-87-00	\$ 86,199.00	101-0564-450-91-87	\$ 86,199.00
ACT		ACT	
TOTAL	\$ 86,199.00	TOTAL	\$ 86,199.00

Justification: Budget Pass Through grant from Governor's Crime Commission to New Bern Housing Authority for Acting Creatively Together (ACT) Program.

DSS 7201 Admin, 7221 Services

101-7221-349-22-00	\$ 15,151.00	101-7201-450-46-00	\$ 32,590.00
Services Staff Ovhd		General Insurance	
101-00-399-01-0	\$ 17,439.00		
TOTAL	\$ 32,590.00	TOTAL	\$ 32,590.00

Justification: Funds needed for unexpected increase in general insurance costs for Fiscal Year 2002-2003. Funds will be reported on the DSS-1571 for reimbursement through 310 distribution/cost pool.

Request to Set Public Hearing

The Planning Department requested to set a public hearing for Monday, October 7, 2002 at 7:30 p.m. to change the name of Lagoon Road to Old Airport Road in Township 7, and to add Lathon Lane within Township 3 and Premier Drive within Township 7. Commissioner Sampson moved to set a public hearing for Monday, October 7, 2002 at 7:30 p.m., as requested, seconded by Commissioner Toon and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

2003 Holiday Schedule

The Human Resources Director requested that the Board approve the following proposed 2003 Holiday Schedule for Craven County employees. For the year 2003, thirteen (13) holidays will be given. One (1) floating holiday will be observed, as approved by the Board of Commissioners on November 6, 1989. The floating holiday is on Monday, November 10, 2003 in conjunction with the Veteran's Day holiday that falls on Tuesday, November 11, 2003. The floating holiday rule states "if a holiday falls on Tuesday, the preceding Monday will also be observed, or if a holiday falls on Thursday, the following Friday will also be observed as Floating Holidays". Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the proposed 2003 Holiday Schedule for Craven County employees, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Toon and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

**2003
HOLIDAYS**

NEW YEAR'S DAY
Wednesday, January 1, 2003

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.'S BIRTHDAY
Monday, January 20, 2003

GOOD FRIDAY
Friday, April 18, 2003

MEMORIAL DAY
Monday, May 26, 2003

INDEPENDENCE DAY
Friday, July 4, 2003

LABOR DAY
Monday, September 1, 2003

VETERAN'S DAY
Monday, November 10, 2003 (Floating)
Tuesday, November 11, 2003

THANKSGIVING
Thursday, November 27, 2003
Friday, November 28, 2003

CHRISTMAS
Wednesday, December 24, 2003
Thursday, December 25, 2003
Friday, December 26, 2003

**PRESENTATION CONCERNING SUPER HORNETS AND OUTLYING
LANDING FIELD**

Mr. George Callendar, a resident of Fairfield Harbour, requested to comment before the Board concerning the proposed location of the Super Hornet Aircraft and the Outlying Landing Field, since he was out of town during the scheduled public hearing. He highlighted his concerns with the environmental impact statement issued by the Department of the Navy, specifically about proposed flight paths and noise levels. He asked that the Board support a request that the Navy determine how many people are affected and how they are affected before the location is chosen rather than after the selection of the location, as is proposed. Commissioner Tyson inquired if Mr. Callendar had written to the address provided for comment by the Department of the Navy. He expressed his intent to do so.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT MATTERS

Update on CAMA Grant

Recreation and Parks Director, Jan Parker, updated the Commissioners on the CAMA grant received for the waterfront development of Creekside Park. A grant of \$93,750 was received, with the County providing a cash match of \$15,625 in the year 2000. Bids were received on the first phase of the project, which is construction of the docks and ramps along Brices Creek, as follows:

Foley & Foley Contractors	\$57,015
Shoreline Marine Construction	\$55,500
Trader Construction	\$55,000

The Board received a recommendation to enter into an agreement with the low bidder, Trader Construction, to complete the work. Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the recommendation for the bid award, seconded by Commissioner Talton and unanimously carried. Ms. Parker informed the Board that the project is scheduled to begin in October and to be completed by the end of the year.

Request for Road Name Change Public Hearing

Ms. Parker expressed support on behalf of the four property owners along Lagoon Road for a road name change to Old Airport Road. The Board has scheduled a public hearing for October 7th at 7:30 p.m. concerning a request for the name change. She explained that, with the completion of the road from Airport Road to Old Airport Road, there is now one continuous road from Taberna to Airport Road.

Road Naming

The Board was requested to name the road going through Creekside Park, “Creekside Park Drive”. Ms. Parker explained that it is a private road and does not require a public hearing. Commissioner Talton moved to approve the proposed name, seconded by Commissioner Phillips and unanimously carried.

TAX DEPARTMENT MATTERS

Annual Tax Collection and Settlement

Craven County Tax Administrator, Ronnie Antry, presented the settlement of the 2001 taxes. Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the annual collection and settlement, as follows, seconded by Commissioner Talton and unanimously carried.

**CRAVEN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2002**

General Fund Original Levy	\$	26,978,260.65
Fire District Original Levy		<u>1,029,379.80</u>
Total Original Levy	\$	28,007,640.45

Add:

Afterlists	853,687.47
Additions	618.30
Plus Adjustments	<u>406.17</u>
Total	\$ 28,862,352.39

Less:

Write-offs	6,968.47
Adjustments	148.25
Releases	<u>502,248.04</u>

Net Levy	\$	28,352,987.63
Collected	\$	27,515,189.74
Uncollected as of June 30, 2002	\$	837,797.89

Percentage of 2001 taxes collected ----- 97.05

Net taxable valuation -- \$4,556,124,600

ANNUAL REPORT OF REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES

September 16, 2002

**CRAVEN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2002**

General Fund Original Levy	\$	4,192,433.82
Fire District Original Levy		<u>166,908.42</u>
Total Original Levy	\$	4,359,342.24

Add:

Additions		148.25
Plus Adjustments		<u>-0-</u>
Total	\$	4,359,490.49

Less:

Write-offs		5,480.28
Adjustments		148.25
Releases		<u>395,692.66</u>

Net Levy	\$	3,958,169.30
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Collected	\$	3,513,074.67
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Uncollected as of June 30, 2002	\$	445,094.63
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Percentage of 2001 taxes collected ----- 88.76

Net taxable valuation -- \$648,112,614

**ANNUAL REPORT OF REAL PROPERTY, CERTIFIED VALUATION AND
PERSONAL PROPERTY OTHER THAN REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES**

September 16, 2002

**CRAVEN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2002**

General Fund Original Levy	\$	22,785,826.83
Fire District Original Levy		<u>862,471.38</u>
Total Levy	\$	23,648,298.21

Add:

Afterlists		853,687.47
Additions		470.05
Plus Adjustments		<u>406.17</u>

Total	\$	24,502,861.90
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Less:

Write-offs	1,488.19
Releases	<u>106,555.38</u>

Net Levy	\$	24,394,818.33
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Collected	\$	24,002,115.07
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Uncollected as of June 30, 2002	\$	392,703.26
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Percentage of 2001 taxes collected ----- 98.39

Net taxable valuation -- \$3,908,011,986

Charge to Tax Collector

As is done at this time each year, Mr. Antry requested that the Board adopt the following 2002 Charge to the Craven County Tax Collector. Commissioner Allen moved to charge the Tax Collector with the collection of the 2002 fiscal year taxes, seconded by Commissioner Tyson and unanimously carried.

TO THE TAX COLLECTOR OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN

You are hereby authorized, empowered, and commanded to collect the taxes set forth in the tax records filed in the office of the Craven County Tax Collector and in the tax receipts herewith delivered to you, in the amounts and from the taxpayers likewise therein set forth. Such taxes are hereby declared to be a first lien upon all real property of the respective taxpayers in the County of Craven, and this order shall be a full and sufficient authority to direct, require, and enable you to levy on and sell any real or personal property of such taxpayer, for and on account thereof, in accordance with law.

Commissioner Tyson inquired if a letter sent out by the County Attorney to delinquent taxpayers generated any results. Mr. Antry reported that an additional \$57,000 in revenue was collected over what is usually collected during the month of August as a result of the Attorney's letter, which was sent to approximately 1,700 taxpayers.

PRESENTATION OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT CONCERNING MOSQUITO CONTROL PROGRAM

Craven County Health Director, Wanda Sandelé, and Ray Silverthorne of the Environmental Health Division updated the Board on Craven County's Mosquito Control Program and recent efforts to control the mosquito population. Ms. Sandelé assured the Board that, to date, all test flocks in Craven County have tested negative for mosquito borne viruses. She stated that FEMA funds for aerial spraying are only available after a hurricane or natural disaster, so this is not an option. Mr. Silverthorne explained the requirements for spraying and the issues that must be considered when developing a program and a schedule. There was discussion concerning some alternatives. Commissioner Toon inquired about the possibility of Harlowe having use of a sprayer to mount on a community truck. Mr. Silverthorne responded that it would require that the operator be licensed for pesticide application. There was discussion concerning the cost of aerial spraying and the effectiveness of such a program. Ms. Sandelé indicated that the cost is approximately \$85,000, and effectiveness is not guaranteed since a new brood of mosquitos hatches every week. An aerial spraying program funded by the County is not a feasible option.

APPOINTMENTS

Sexual Assault Resource Center

The Board considered a deferred request by the Sexual Assault Resource Center for appointment of Ms. Nancy Van Wyck. Commissioner Sampson nominated Ms. Van Wyck and moved to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner Talton and unanimously carried.

Regional Aging Advisory Committee

The Board received a request from the Area Agency on Aging for an appointment to fill a vacancy, and a nomination of Ms. Gertha Williams to fill the vacancy. Commissioner Sampson nominated Ms. Williams. Commissioner Talton moved to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried. Commissioner Sampson moved to waive the one-meeting waiting requirement, seconded by Commissioner Toon and unanimously carried.

REQUEST FOR SICKLE CELL PROCLAMATION

The Board considered a request by the Eastern North Carolina Chapter of the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, Inc. to proclaim September, 2002 Sickle Cell Awareness Month in Craven County. Commissioner Tyson moved for approval of the following proclamation, seconded by Commissioner Phillips and unanimously carried.

PROCLAMATION OF SICKLE CELL AWARENESS MONTH 2002

WHEREAS, sickle cell, a debilitating blood disease which causes pain, infection, economic strain and even death among African Americans and other groups; and

WHEREAS, it is an inherited disease, affecting one of every 294 African American North Carolinians born with sickle cell disease and one out of every 10 with sickle cell trait, meaning that he or she carries the gene for this condition; and

WHEREAS, treatment is available to help those with sickle cell lead more productive and rewarding lives, although there is no known cure for this disease; and

WHEREAS, since 1973, the North Carolina Sickle Cell Syndrome Program has provided quality services throughout the State. Provision of services is a collaborative effort between regional educators/counselors, community-based programs, major medical centers, local health departments and the State Laboratory of Public Health. Services include screening of all newborns at birth, general screening by request for public at local health departments, education, genetic counseling, service coordination, medical reimbursement and social support for affected persons; and

WHEREAS, support for research on the treatment and management of this disorder is vital to improving the health and quality of life of persons with sickle cell disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, the CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS proclaims September 2002 as “**SICKLE CELL AWARENESS MONTH**” in Craven County and urges our citizens to recognize and support his observance.

Done this 16th day of September, 2002.

COUNTY ATTORNEY’S REPORT

County Attorney, Jim Sugg, requested that the Board go into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3) to consider pending litigation relative to the Forest Edge Farm lawsuit. At 9:57 a.m. Commissioner Phillips moved to go into closed session, seconded by Commissioner Talton and unanimously carried. At 10:15 the Board was declared back in regular session. The County Attorney stated that the Board had discussed the Forest Edge lawsuit and potential settlement. There was discussion, only, and the outcome will be announced when a settlement is finalized.

COUNTY MANAGER’S REPORT

Tax Bills

County Manager, Harold Blizzard, announced that the Board of Equalization and Review would hold its final meeting of September 17th and the tax bills are scheduled to be mailed by September 25th.

Dead Animal Transfer Facility

Mr. Blizzard informed the Board that the Industrial Park property that was transferred to the City of New Bern contains the dead animal transfer facility. The contract with the City reserves the use of the facility by the County; however, no use of the facility is foreseen at this time. The city has indicated that the facility poses a liability. In addition, the City has use for the land occupied by the facility and asked for authorization to demolish it. Commissioner Tyson recommended that the County advise the Livestock Association of its intent to grant authority to the City of New Bern to demolish the dead animal facility and defer action until the Livestock Association had been notified. It was the consensus of the Board to defer this decision.

COMMISSIONERS’ REPORTS

Commissioner Allen announced “Chili Day” in Havelock on October 19th.

Commissioner Tyson inquired about the status of land in Industrial Park as a training site for the Craven County Firemen’s Association. County Manager, Harold Blizzard, responded that the parties would be meeting soon to work out the details. Commissioner Tyson also expressed condolences to the family of the late Hunt Baxter who was killed in a recent car accident.

Commissioner Sampson thanked the participants in the Duffest (Duffyfield Festival) which was held on September 7th, and encouraged citizens who are able to make themselves available as school volunteers.

Commissioner Toon updated the Board on a public hearing that was held in the Harlowe community concerning a pending USDA grant application for improvements to the Harlowe Community Center.

Commissioner Phillips moved that the Board adopt a resolution recognizing Billy Dunham, Cooperative Extension Director, on the occasion of his retirement. Commissioner Sampson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

At 10:38 a.m. Commissioner Talton moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously carried.

Chairman C.W. “Pete” Bland
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk
Board of Commissioners